

REMARKS:

In view of the fact that allowable subject matter has been indicated to be present in the case, an earnest effort has been made to bring the application to issue without delay.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 4-7, 10-12 and 15-18 would be allowable if written in independent form including all the limitations in the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 4, 5, 6 and 7 have all been amended to include the subject matter of the respective base claim. In addition, the problem with respect to the "said slot" under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, has been resolved in these claims.

Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 10 and that of claim 1 and thus corresponds to claim 10 written in independent form. It is noted that spot weld includes point weld connections.

Claims 12, 17 and 18 have all been amended to include the subject matter of their base claim 1 and the intervening claim 14 from which they were formally dependent. Outright allowance of claims 4-7, 9, 12, 15-18 is therefore in order.

A charge form covering the fee for 8 number of independent claims beyond the three covered by the original fee is enclosed.

The Examiner had rejected all of the claims under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to contain the exact language with respect to the relative adjustment of the wall elements in plains thereof. The proper text has been inserted at an appropriate location in the specification and from the context will be readily seen as not to contain any new matter.

Since this case is now in condition for allowance, an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Charge form for \$336 for
8 additional independent claims (sm. ent.)
Marked-up Pg. 4 of orig. app.

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TC 1700



Pat. App. 09/672,252

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Version with markings to show changes made.

and preferably coplanar and one of the elements is provided with a connecting device forming a plug or clamp connector along an edge of one of the wall elements so that the other wall element can fit into this connector and more specifically into the slot
5 formed along that edge.

The wall elements of the partition can lie preferably in the same plane and are located one above the other or one alongside the other.

The partition of the invention has the advantage that
10 the partition, rather ^{than} being in one piece, can be installed from a multiplicity of loosely assembled wall elements, thereby enabling the partition to be matched individually to the dimensions of the column.

The installation of the partition in the column is
15 simplified and the individual wall elements of the partition, because of their relatively small dimensions, can be comparatively light. The partition can be assembled exclusively by manual effort, i.e. without the need for machines, manipulations or hoists, thereby reducing the cost and the risk of injury
20 to the workers involved in installing the partition.

With this type of assembly in place within the column, it is possible to avoid damage to the partition surfaces as well as to the inner wall surfaces of the column. The light weight of the individual parts of the wall assemblies and the relatively
25 small dimensions of the wall elements by comparison with the inner diameter of the column, enables installation without